

REMARKS

An Office Action was mailed on April 4, 2003 and declared final. Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application. Claims 8-12 are **allowed**.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

AGAIN, Applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement on July 23, 2001, prior to the mailing date of the first action on the merits. Copies of the IDS, FORM PTO-1449, return-receipt postcard stamped by the USPTO and cited references are attached. The documents cited therein were first cited in a communication from a corresponding international application not more than three months from the mailing date of the IDS. It is **respectfully requested** that the Examiner consider such references and acknowledge the same by initialing next to each reference, signing the PTO-1449 form and returning the same to the Applicant.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claims 1-7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa in view of Best '259.

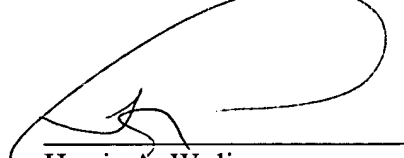
In order to expedite allowance of the present application, Applicant has canceled claims 1-7 and 13. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute such claims in a continuing application.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this

application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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